

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kohei YOSHIDA et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: December 1, 2003

Docket No.: 117923

For: EXHAUST EMISSION CONTROL APPARATUS FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION  
ENGINE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

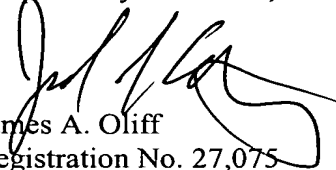
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language references 1, 3 and 4 is discussed in the present specification.
- ☒ 3. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language references 1-4 appears in the Appendix attached hereto.
- ☒ 4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 1-4 are attached hereto.

- ☒ 5. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1-4.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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JAO:JSA/al

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| Form PTO-1449<br>(REV. 8-83)  |   | US Dept. of Commerce<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE |            | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>117923          |                 | APPLICATION NO.<br>New U.S. Patent Application |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary)   |   |   |            | APPLICANTS<br>Kohei YOSHIDA et al. |                 |  |  |
|   |   |   |            | FILING DATE<br>December 1, 2003    |                 |  |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |   |   |            |                                    |                 |  |  |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL   |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                   | DATE       | NAME                               | CLASS           | SUB<br>CLASS                                   |  |
|   |   |   |            |                                    |                 |  |  |
|   |   |   |            |                                    |                 |  |  |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |   |   |            |                                    |                 |  |  |
|   |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                   | DATE       | COUNTRY                            | CLASS           | SUB<br>CLASS                                   |  |
|   | 1 | JP B2 2722987 w/Abstract & Translation            | 11/28/1997 | Japan                              |                 |  |  |
|   | 2 | JP A 2003-65042 w/Abstract & Translation          | 03/05/2003 | Japan                              |                 |  |  |
|   | 3 | JP A 2001-303980 w/Abstract & Translation         | 10/31/2001 | Japan                              |                 |  |  |
|   | 4 | JP A 9-53442 w/Abstract & Translation             | 02/25/1997 | Japan                              |                 |  |  |
|   |   |   |            |                                    |                 |  |  |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)  |   |   |            |                                    |                 |  |  |
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| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |   |   |            |                                    |                 |  |  |

Date: December 1, 2003